WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Setting up of Fisheries Development Board

*61. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up Fisheries Development Board for overall development of this sector specially the inland fisheries;

(b) if so, its location and time-frame within which it would be set up;

(c) what is the extent of poaching in our waters by foreign trawlers; and

(d) the action plan of Government to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The feasibility of establishing a National Fisheries Development Board is under examination.

(c) Poaching by foreign fishing vessels in Indian waters is mainly confined to Andaman and Nicobar Islands and to some extent in Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar, Gujarat and off Sand-heads.

(d) Poaching by foreign fishing trawlers in Indian waters is controlled by Indian Coast Guard under the powers delegated to them in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Fishing Vessles) Act, 1981 and the Rules framed thereunder. Regular patrolling including night patrolling is being maintained by Coast Guard ships and aircraft to control poaching.

Vaccination and immune system

*62. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the vaccination weakens the immune system;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have made any research in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (e) According to ICMR, there are no scientific studies which indicate that vaccination weakens the immune response.